



County of Fauquier
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PHILIP MYER, CHIEF
HURRICANE ISABEL

Residents of Fauquier County need to prepare for extensive flooding as a result of Hurricane Isabel. Regardless of the “category” listing of this weather system, even if it is down graded to a tropical depression, I urge all residents to plan for extensive flooding in areas that have a past history of flooding.

The latest storm center information is predicting Isabel to make landfall in the area of the Outer Banks, NC on Thursday morning and track up through Virginia throughout the day. Virginia can expect to feel the effects of the storm for 24 to 30 hours. As a result, Governor Warner declared a State of Emergency at 4:00 pm Monday. Further expectations of the storm activity include the storm reaching landfall with wind speeds up to 110 mph, then spreading out and dropping double digit rain totals especially toward our mountainous areas which will cause an “uplifting” effect. Additionally, there will be the potential for tornadoes.

Residents need to take the following measures to prepare for this event:

- Monitor the news/weather channels for updates on the situation. I recommend “The Weather Channel” , local TV news channels and WTOP radio
- Prepare as you would for a winter storm
- Be sure to have flashlights and plenty of batteries
- If you must use candles, use all due caution to prevent fires by using candles in glass or porcelain dishes and keep open flames away from materials easily ignited
- Secure all objects which may float, especially fuel tanks such as propane grill cylinders
- Stock up on personal medications, food and water

Residents in the areas near Goose Creek, Cedar Run, Turkey Run, Savannah Branch and Remington should be particularly concerned with flooding. While I expect to open Liberty High School as an evacuation shelter, residents should have contingency plans to vacate their homes early and stay with families/friends who are not in flood areas.

If residents need to go to the shelter they may NOT bring their pets. They should bring any pertinent medications, a change of clothes and towels.

Extreme caution should be used near high water and all should stay away from swift water caused by flash flooding.

The following number may be utilized for information related to this weather event 8-5 Tuesday and Wednesday, and around the clock starting once the Emergency Operations Center is activated (most likely Thursday morning) until the storm subsides: 540-347-6872

For other information, the following web sites may be utilized:

- www.noaa.com
- www.redcross.org
- www.vaemergency.com
- www.fauquiercounty.gov/government/departments/sheriff

The past history of Hurricane Agnes in 1972 caused extensive flooding in Remington amounting to a level of 4 feet of water on Main Street, Cedar Run and the Rte. 806 corridor, Meetze Rd. at Turkey Run and Goose Creek, particularly the Delaplane area.